

REMARKS

This paper includes a complete and timely response to the non-final Office Action mailed December 3, 2004. Upon entry of the attached amendments, claims 1 – 13 and 20 – 26 are pending. Claims 14 – 19 have been canceled. Claims 1, 4, 6 – 8, 10, 12, and 13 have been amended. Claims 20 – 26 have been added. The subject matter in amended claims 1, 4, 6 – 8, 10, 12, and 13 and new claims 20 – 26 are included in FIGs. 1 – 3, 4A, 4B, 5, and 6 and described in the corresponding portions of the detailed description. Consequently, no new matter is added to the present application.

Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1 – 13 and 20 – 26 are patentable over the cited art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims 1 – 13 and 20 – 26 are respectfully requested.

Each objection and rejection presented in the non-final Office Action mailed December 3, 2004 is discussed in the following remarks.

I. Restriction Requirement

The Office Action mailed December 3, 2004 indicates that restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121: I. Claims 1 – 13 drawn to scheduling of tasks to an individual or group of subscribers classified in class 705, subclass 9; II. Claims 14 – 19 drawn to means or steps for changing a format of the data transferred between computers classified in class 709, subclass 246.

Applicants hereby confirm the provisional election to prosecute invention I, claims 1 – 13, as entered via a telephone conversation with the undersigned attorney, Robert A. Blaha (Reg. No. 43,502).

II. Objections to the Specification

A. Statement of the Objection

The Office Action mailed December 3, 2004 indicates that originally submitted specification is objected to for including an embedded hyperlink or browser-executable code. The Office Action further indicates that the Cross-Reference to Related Applications Section of the originally submitted specification includes an attorney docket number.

B. Discussion of the Objection

Applicants have amended the specification to remove embedded hyperlinks from the text. Specifically, an example web address and an example e-mail address have been redacted from the originally filed specification. Accordingly, this objection has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Applicants have amended the specification to replace the attorney docket number of the related application with the serial number of the application. Accordingly, this objection has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 – Claim 12

A. Statement of the Rejection

The Office Action indicates that claim 12 presently stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Specifically, the Office Action indicates that where a trademark or trade name appears in a claim as a limitation to define a product the claim is indefinite.

B. Discussion of the Rejection

Applicants' claim 12, as amended, does not include a trademark. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 12 should be withdrawn.

IV. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) - Claims 1 – 11 and 13

A. Statement of the Rejection

Claims 1 – 11 and 13 presently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,960,406 to Rasansky *et al.* (hereafter "*Rasansky*.")

B. Discussion of the Rejection

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 – 11 and 13, as amended, are patentable for at least the reason that the cited reference fails to disclose, teach, or suggest each limitation in the amended claims.

It is well established that "anticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under consideration." *W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. v. Garlock, Inc.*, 721 Fed 2d 1540, 220 U.S.P.Q. 303, 313 (Fed Cir 1983). The cited

reference fails to meet the requirement of a single prior art reference that discloses, teaches, or suggests each feature of the claimed invention.

1. Claims 1 – 6

Claim 1 is directed to a system for collecting calendar information from a predetermined calendar source and distributing calendar data to a subscriber. Applicants' claimed system comprises "a subscriber unit indirectly coupled and registered with the collection and distribution unit, the subscriber unit configured to receive calendar data from the collection and distribution unit in accordance with said subscriber list." *Rasansky* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest at least this feature of Applicants' claimed system.

In contrast with the presently claimed system for collecting calendar information from a predetermined calendar source and distributing calendar data to a subscriber, the system for scheduling events between a plurality of users on a network apparently described in *Rasansky* teaches a user workstation 90 with two interfaces. A first interface is illustrated and described as a two-way interface between a web browser 100 and a web subsystem 70 located within web server 50. User commands and display information is transferred to and from the web server 50 via HTML. The web server 50 communicates with an administrator workstation 150, a SQL server 60, and a communications server 130. A second interface is a one-way interface for receiving e-mail from a communications subsystem 120 in a communications server 130. Accordingly, it would appear that the system of *Rasansky* receives calendar data from a web browser 100 and/or a database subsystem 110 located within the SQL server 60. A system that receives calendar data from a web browser 100 and/or a database does not disclose, teach, or suggest a "subscriber unit configured to receive calendar data from the collection and distribution unit in accordance with said subscriber list." Consequently, *Rasansky* does not anticipate Applicants' independent claim 1. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Because independent claim 1 is allowable, dependent claims 2 – 6, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, are also allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. *See In re Fine*, 837, F.2d 1071, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1 – 6 be withdrawn.

2. Claims 7 – 11 and 13

Claim 7 is directed to a system for collecting calendar information from a predetermined calendar source and distributing calendar data to a subscriber. Applicants' claimed system comprises at least two elements not found in *Rasansky*. Specifically, Applicants' claimed system comprises both "an optical imaging device configured to capture an image of calendar data," and "a subscriber unit registered with the collection and distribution unit and configured to receive calendar data from the collection and distribution unit via said network interface in accordance with said subscriber list." *Rasansky* is entirely silent regarding an optical imaging device configured to capture an image of calendar data. For at least this reason, *Rasansky* fails to anticipate Applicants' claim 7. As shown above, *Rasansky* receives calendar data from a web browser 100 and/or a database subsystem 110 located within the SQL server 60. A system that receives calendar data from a web browser 100 and/or a database does not disclose, teach, or suggest "a subscriber unit registered with the collection and distribution unit and configured to receive calendar data from the collection and distribution unit via said network interface in accordance with said subscriber list." For at least this separate and independent reason, *Rasansky* fails to anticipate Applicants' claim 7. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Because independent claim 7 is allowable, dependent claims 7 – 11 and 13, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 7, are also allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 7. *See In re Fine, supra*. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 7 – 11 and 13 be withdrawn.

V. New Claims

Claims 20 – 23 depend from independent claim 1. Claims 24 – 26 depend from independent claim 7. Accordingly, these claims are also allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 7 as shown above. *See In re Fine, supra*.

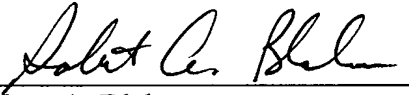
CONCLUSION

In summary, Applicants respectfully request that all outstanding claim rejections be withdrawn. Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims 1 – 13 and 20 – 26 are allowable over the cited art and the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner have any comment regarding the Applicants' response or believe that a teleconference would expedite prosecution of the pending claims, Applicants request that the Examiner telephone Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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